

WESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3 May 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

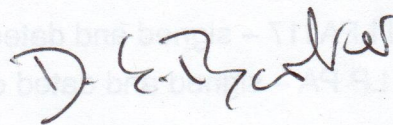
PRESENT: Cllrs David Barker (Chairman); Steve Christian (CR); Richard Brown (RB); Robin Lambert (RL); Mrs Diane Gladders (DG); Ian Cotgrove (IC)

IN ATTENDANCE: 5 members of public; SCCllr and MSDCllr Andy Mellen (AM); Mrs Julia Dunicliffe (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES – Cllr S Caley.
2. MINUTES of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4 May 2021 – these had previously been unanimously approved and signed off at 6 July 2021 Parish Council meeting by the Chairman.
3. ANNUAL REPORT of Parish Council Chairman – see attached. Congratulated AM on his appointment as both SCCllr and BMSDCllr.
Westhorpe Bells – reported £129,000 now needed as advised by Taylor's quote and their work (including contingencies) needed for full restoration; Heritage lottery has suggested perhaps a higher figure than that. Bell ringing charity is supplying 1 bell as part of the £129,000. Garfield Weston Foundation is also assisting with funding. Up to £10,000 will probably come from local donors Appeal leaflets being printed.
Chairman finished report by thanking all Cllrs and Clerk for their support and hard work.
4. SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLOR Annual Report (AM) – see attached. Chairman congratulated AM on his appointment as both SCCllr and BMSDCllr at the May 2021 Local Elections.
 - 4.1 BUS service Westhorpe: AM made aware by member of the public that the work commuter bus service 387 Monday to Friday to Stowmarket was ceasing 28.5.2022, thereby creating a complete lack of public transport for Westhorpe residents to get to work. AM agreed to investigate and report back.
Unanimously agreed Chairman to write to SCC portfolio holder for public transport urging SCC to maintain this vital commuter bus service.
Clerk to contact neighbouring Parish Clerks to ascertain if a commuter lift may be possible on a daily basis to Stowmarket Return for Westhorpe resident.
 - 4.2 ELECTRIC pylons: AM made aware that Westhorpe would not support the proposed siting of huge pylons between Cotton and Mendlesham in 2-3 years time – part of the Local Electricity Bill waiting to be debated in Parliament for its Second Reading.
Chairman thanked AM for his report.
5. BABERGH MIDSUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLOR Annual Report (AM) – see attached.
Chairman thanked AM for his report and all his work and support over the past year.
6. WESTHORPE TRUST REPORT – (Claire Barker, Secretary) see attached.
7. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (Sue Hull) – see attached.
Chairman thanked Sue Hull and all the VH Committee for their invaluable community hard work and support over the past year.
8. OPEN Forum – None.
9. DATE next Meeting – Tuesday 2 May 2023.

Meeting closed at 8.25 pm

Julia Dunicliffe
Westhorpe Parish Clerk



5/7/2022